

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A polymer compound having weight average molecular weight of 1,000 to 100,000 and comprising:

i) a ~~polymerization unit~~ polymer structure represented by  $-(\text{CHR}^3\text{-CR}^4(\text{-L}^1\text{-Y}^1))_x\text{-(CHR}^5\text{-CR}^6(\text{-L}^2\text{-Y}^2))_y\text{-}$ ; and

ii) a silane coupling group represented by  $\text{-S-(CH}_2\text{)}_n\text{-Si-(R}^1\text{)}_m(\text{OR}^2\text{)}_{3-m}$ , as a terminal of the polymer structure,

wherein  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$ ,  $\text{R}^3$ ,  $\text{R}^4$ ,  $\text{R}^5$ , and  $\text{R}^6$  each independently represents a hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group having 1 to 8 carbon atoms;  $m$  represents 0, 1 or 2;  $n$  represents an integer of 1 to 8;  $x$  is 100 to 1 mol%;  $y$  is 0 to 99 mol%;  $x + y = 100$  mol%;  $\text{L}^1$  and  $\text{L}^2$  each independently represents a single bond or an organic connecting group; and  $\text{Y}^1$  and  $\text{Y}^2$  each independently represents  $\text{-N(R}^7\text{)(R}^8\text{)}$ ,  $\text{-OH}$ ,  $\text{-NHCOR}^7$ ,  $\text{-COR}^7$ ,  $\text{-CO}_2\text{M}$ , or  $\text{-SO}_3\text{M}$ , wherein  $\text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^8$  each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 8 carbon atoms and  $\text{M}$  represents a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, an alkaline earth metal, or an onium.

2. (Canceled) .

3. (Withdrawn) A lithographic printing plate base comprising: a support; and a hydrophilic layer containing solid particles to a surface of which a hydrophilic polymer is chemically bonded.

4. (Withdrawn) The lithographic printing plate base according to claim 3, which further comprises an undercoat layer between the support and the hydrophilic layer.

5. (Currently Amended) A lithographic printing plate base comprising: a support[[:]] and a hydrophilic layer containing solid particles to a surface of which a hydrophilic polymer is chemically bonded, wherein the hydrophilic polymer is a polymer compound according to claim 1.

6. (Withdrawn) The lithographic printing plate base according to claim 3, wherein the support has a roughened surface.

7. (Withdrawn) The lithographic printing plate base according to claim 3, wherein the solid particles are inorganic particles.

8. (Withdrawn) The lithographic printing plate base according to claim 7, wherein the inorganic particles have an average particle size of 10  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

9. (Withdrawn) The lithographic printing plate base according to claim 3, wherein the hydrophilic polymer has a silane coupling group as a terminal thereof, and the silane coupling group is chemically bonded to the surface of the solid particles.

10. (Withdrawn) The lithographic printing plate base according to claim 3, wherein the hydrophilic layer has a thickness of 0.001 to 10  $\text{g/m}^2$ .

11. (Withdrawn) The lithographic printing plate base according to claim 3, wherein the undercoat layer comprises a hydrophilic binder and silica.